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Senator Mark Ridley-Thomas, Chairman of the Legislative Black Caucus to Join Lawmakers at CSUDH Budget Town Hall

Carson, CA—Senator Mark Ridley-Thomas, Chairman of the Legislative Black Caucus, will join Assembly Speaker Karen Bass in a Town Hall on the state budget hosted by Assembly Member Warren Furutani on Tuesday, July 29 at California State University, Dominguez Hills at 6:00 p.m.

"We have an obligation to keep our constituents informed as to the workings of the state and how the budget proposals from both sides of the Legislature will affect their every day lives," said Senator Ridley-Thomas.

"We need to let them know how proposals under consideration will impact them and what our rationale is for supporting or opposing specific ideas. But most importantly, we need to hear from the people we represent—their views on what we can do to protect and advance their interests and ensure a fair and equitable process."

The event is open to the public and will be held in the Dominguez Ballroom at the Donald P. and Katherine B. Loker Student Union on campus.

California began its fiscal year on July 1 without a budget, as leaders of both parties struggle with closing the estimated \$15.2 billion deficit in the \$101 billon general budget. Money in reserves is expected to be depleted by mid-August. The Senate is tentatively scheduled to convene on Tuesday morning to take a vote on the budget.

The legislators will address the community and discuss the budget process and the various components of the proposed budget currently before the legislature. Also in attendance will be individuals representing education, healthcare, and public safety — all services that face drastic cuts this year. The public is invited to ask questions.

To read Senator Ridley-Thomas' comments on the budget, <u>click here</u>

For more information on the Town Hall, contact Assemblyman Furutani's main office at (916) 319-2055, or his district office at (562) 989-2919, or send an e-mail to assemblymember.furutani@assembly.ca.gov.